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(54) **Process for acid treating clay for improved filtration.**

(57) A method of treating clay with acid to beneficiate the clay for increased capacity of filtration of oil-soluble colorant compounds from oil. The clay is ground to a particle size distribution such that more than 50% by weight of the clay, on a dry basis, passes through a 200 mesh screen and less than 5% by weight of the clay, on a dry basis, is finer than 5 microns. After grinding, the ground clay is directly contacted with an acid solution to form an acid slurry of the clay. The clay acid slurry is agitated for a time sufficient and at a temperature sufficient so that the acid reacts with a portion of the clay and, thereafter, the acid treated clay is separated from the acid solution; the clay then is washed to remove most of the acid solution from the clay; filtered to a liquid content less than about 60% by weight and thereafter dried to a liquid content less than about 20% by weight.



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication where appropriate of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
Y	US-A-1 926 148 (HUBER) * Page 2, line 22 - page 3, line 67 *	1	B 01 J 20/12
A		2, 3, 6	
Y	--- US-A-2 192 000 (WILSON) * Page 1, right-hand column, line 44 - page 2, right-hand column, line 8 *	1	
A		3, 4, 7, 9	
A	--- US-A-1 819 496 (BAYLIS) * Page 1, line 81 - page 3, line 57; page 1, lines 1-14 *	1, 3, 6, 10	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4) B 01 J
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11-11-1987	Examiner WENDLING J.P.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

